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Editorial

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EDITORIAL

Anna Ciuppa, Issue Editor

Sustainable Landscapes and Communities: the 2010 ICLL Symposium certainly achieved its objective to 'highlight diverse interpretations of the concept of sustainability through arts, sciences, education, business, law and policy'. Included in the excellent program were presentations on sustainability and education, from sustainability to symbiosis, managing for sustainability, sustainability: a concept that now means everything and nothing, and an explanation of ECU's environmental footprint. The Symposium concluded with an outstanding tour led by Jason Barrow of ECU's Kurongkurl Katitjin Gardens, which demonstrated the sustainability, versatility, and beauty of Australian native plants.

Heartfelt comments and perceptions from Symposium attendees include:

'Just to let you know how much I enjoyed the Symposium and to thank you for your organisation and effort' (Sally Clarke) 24th November 2010.

'What an excellent symposium! I really enjoyed it and made lots of notes. Thank you for the invitation and the delicious food' (Rose Van Son) 16th November 2010.

'Thank you for arranging yesterday's wonderful day'
(Dr Rowena Scott a presenter on Sustainability and Education) 17th November 2010.

Dr Scott received the following feedback from ECU's Dr Danielle Brady:

'Dear Rowena,
I really liked your simple exercise to ask people to describe sustainability in three words. This worked well to show up the different perspectives quickly. I asked my 11 year old last night could he define sustainability. He didn't miss a beat and came out with this:

"It's when you do something over and over and over and over and over and over and it doesn't cause anyone any problems".

I reckon his generation will have it all worked out. Let's hope there is something left for them'.

Edith Cowan University
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Post Symposium, an inspired attendee composed the following manifesto:

SUSTAINABILITY – An enquiry?

Sacred opportunities for growth
Understanding significance of climate change
Survival of diverse species
Time to discover what's happening in our world
Ancient paths of aboriginal spirituality
Inspiring new generations to renew, recycle, reduce
Never taking anything for granted
Adaptations of new ways of belonging to our earth
Balance of ecosystems
Increasing our water supply
Landscapes and language gives meaning to our story
Intriguing interconnectedness between humanity and environment
Tapping into valuable resources
Yearning for the future we cherish.

-Benedetta Restifo - Interested teacher – concerned with our youth

The following words by Henry David Thoreau, in *Walden*, (Princeton University Press, 1971) describe my own feelings on Sustainabilia, as being much more than just a collection of sustainability commentary:

The indescribable innocence and beneficence of Nature—of sun and wind and rain, of summer and winter—such health, such cheer, they afford forever!...Shall I not have intelligence with the Earth? Am I not partly leaves and vegetable mould myself?

Volume 4/Issue 2 on Sustainabilia is a thought provoking and enjoyable collection of poetry, academic articles, artistic images, and an eco-criticism interview. This issue also contains an outstanding first, a State Government policymaker's paper on water foot-printing: a sustainable way forward for global water resources.

We hope you enjoy this Issue as much as we have enjoyed compiling it.

Kindest Regards
Sustainabilia Issue Editor
Anna Ciuppa

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